

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - The molar concentrations of the developer in the fresh process solution is often significantly lower than the molar concentrations of the bleaching agent in the bleach solution. For example in typical solutions the color developer concentration is 0.077 moles /liter while the iron(III) concentration in the bleach is 0.466 moles per liter. If equal parts of these solutions are mixed together it is expected that the color developing agent would be completely oxidized. However, during processing these solutions are not used at the same relative rates. The reactions in the developer control the image formation and are therefore sensitive to waste products of the development process. The bleaching solution is often more concentrated and less critical to the imaging process therefore this solution is often used at a lower rate than the developer solution. Ratios vary from as high as 3:1 developer to bleach down to 1:1. At a 3:1 ratio, the formulation of the fresh solutions are just sufficient to stoichiometrically convert the reduced form of the developer (0.23 moles in the above example) to the oxidized form (requires 0.46 moles of iron(III) complex). Therefore, in order to be assured that there is sufficient bleaching agent in its oxidized form to convert the reduced developing agent to its oxidized form requires that ~~these~~ the color developer solution and the bleach solution be mixed together before combining with the other process waste streams coming from the fixer and rinse steps. In particular, mixtures of the fixer solution react with the bleaching agent to convert it to iron(II) thereby lowering the available iron(III) to effect complete oxidation of the color developing agent. Incomplete oxidation of the color developer results in a toxic solution. - -

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- - R is hydrogen, -NH₄, -OH, an alkyl having 1 to 8 carbon atoms, an alkoxy having 1-8 carbon atoms, phenyl, cyclohexyl, ~~oxazinyl~~ oxazinyl, phenoxy, -NR'₂ or -SR'', R' is hydrogen, an alkyl having 1 to 8 carbon atoms, phenyl, cyclohexyl, naphthyl or benzyl. R'' is an alkyl having 1 to 8 carbon atoms, phenyl, cyclohexyl, naphthyl or benzyl. m is an integer from 1 to 3 and n is 0 or an integer from 1 to 2. A preferred

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embodiment is trimercapto-s-triazine (TMT) which is sold by Degussa under the tradename "TMT-15". - -